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GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN, BRISBANE.

BULLETIN NO. 6 OF 1947.

UNEMPLOYMENT, NOVEMBER, 1946.

The Commonwealth Statistician recently released figures of unemployed persons receiving benefit payments at the end of November, 1946. His bulletin gave total numbers for each State, but a great deal more information is available from the detailed tabulations which he has made available to the State Statistician.

This bulletin gives a dissection of unemployed persons receiving benefit in Queensland according to their districts of residence, and causes of unemployment and industries within each district. It is hoped to release this information in future at the same time as the Commonwealth Statistician issues his bulletin on the Australian position. Only unemployment benefits are dealt with here, as there are no special Queensland features about sickness or special benefits.

Females.

Of the total of 3,664 receiving benefit in Queensland at the end of November, only 94 were females, and for completeness they have been included in the figures throughout. 14 of these were in Brisbane district, 12 in Ipswich district, 19 in Maryborough district, 21 in Rockhampton district, and the remaining 28 were distributed among the other districts.

Comparison with October.

The November figures show an increase of 764 over October, as follows:-

<u>End of Month.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
October ..	2,814	86	2,900
November ..	3,570	94	3,664

Earlier figures do not give a normal comparison with these as they were inflated by strikes in June and July.

The rise during November was largely seasonal. The following figures show the chief causes of unemployment in October and November, and the increase due to each cause. It will be seen that the increase was largely a seasonal movement.

<u>Cause of Unemployment.</u>	<u>October.</u>	<u>November.</u>	<u>Increase.</u>
Medical unfitness for type of work, work too heavy ..	109	116	7
Inefficiency, incompetence ..	112	113	1
Establishment closed, reduction of staff	491	595	104
Replaced by re-instated servicemen	116	120	4
Shortage of materials ..	130	171	41
Seasonal work and weather conditions	276	727	451
Casual work	495	520	25
Discharged or laid off for other reasons	438	428	-10
Quitted because work too heavy, medically unfit, etc. ..	231	286	55
Quitted for other reasons ..	179	197	18
Not previously employed ..	323	391	68
	2,900	3,664	764

Causes by Districts.

The attached table (No. I) shows the main causes of unemployment in each district. The totals along the bottom of the sheet show the numbers unemployed from each cause, while the totals on the right show the numbers unemployed in each district, and the number unemployed per 10,000 population in main groups of districts. The metropolitan figure of 1,650 is the highest, as would be expected, but as seasonal unemployment grows some of the sugar and meat districts will have high figures. Relatively, unemployment was highest in November in the Maryborough-Bundaberg district, and in the northern sugar areas, due to seasonal causes. The central areas were already being affected by the drought and the next highest figures are those for Rockhampton. The seasonal unemployment in Bundaberg district was very high in relation to the total while in Cairns also about half the total shown was due to this cause.

Industries by Districts.

Table No. II shows the unemployed according to the industry in which they are normally engaged. The totals at the foot of the sheet give the numbers in each industry group for the State. The food and drink factory group has the largest total, and men in this group are mostly in areas with meatworks or sugar mills. This is followed by agriculture, pastoral and dairying, building and construction, ex-employees of Australian and Allied forces, and discharged servicemen.

The district figures show that the Brisbane unemployment is well distributed through the industry groups. The Rockhampton district shows that the repercussions of the drought were widespread, and extended, for instance, into wholesale and retail trade and wharf work more so than in other districts. The Bundaberg district was severely hit, and had a very high proportion of its unemployed in agriculture and seasonal factories.

COLIN CLARK,

Government Statistician.

BRISBANE,

3rd March, 1947.

TABLE I. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND,
NOVEMBER, 1946.

DISTRICTS AND CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

DISTRICT.	Discharged or Laid Off.						Quitted.			Total.	
	Medical unfitness for particular type of work, work too heavy, etc.	Inefficiency, incompetence.	Establishment closed, reduction of staff permanent retrenchment.	Replaced by re-instated servicemen, relieving worker only.	Shortage of materials.	Casual work.	Discharged or laid-off for other reasons.	Medical unfitness, work too heavy, medical advice.	Quitted for other reasons.	Not previously employed.	Number
Brisbane ..	43	81	379	64	93	76	199	262	130	240	1,650
Ipswich ..	5	3	21	8	13	10	17	19	14	11	149
Morilton	48	84	400	72	106	86	216	281	144	94	268
Gympie ..	.	1	2	1	.	2	1	4	3	.	16
Maryborough ..	2	2	21	5	11	51	30	20	10	8	176
Bundaberg ..	1	5	16	4	8	177	37	5	14	7	288
S.E. Coastal	3	8	39	10	19	230	68	29	27	15	32
Toowoomba ..	10	5	12	4	5	13	15	16	8	11	108
Warwick ..	.	1	6	1	1	4	1	1	1	4	23
Roma ..	.	.	.	1	.	1	2	2	1	.	8
Charleville ..	.	.	1	1	1	33	7	1	4	1	53
Downs and S.W.	10	6	19	7	7	51	25	20	14	16	17
Rockhampton	6	5	44	12	29	65	52	38	30	29	35
Emerald ..	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	3
Longreach ..	1	1	.	.	.	23	6	.	5	2	38
Central ..	7	6	45	12	29	88	58	39	36	31	35
Mackay ..	15	4	13	3	1	79	87	17	16	10	11
Ayr ..	1	1	2	.	.	7	2	1	2	3	19
Townsville	6	4	19	6	.	55	22	19	19	13	8
Ingham ..	.	.	1	1	.	1	3	.	1	1	8
Innisfail ..	3	.	6	.	.	15	4	2	4	2	1
Cairns ..	12	.	39	5	4	86	11	9	7	2	4
N. Coastal	37	9	80	15	5	243	129	48	49	31	24
Charters Towers ..	9	.	8	4	4	15	16	5	13	5	11
Atherton ..	2	.	3	.	1	9	8	6	3	5	4
Hughenden ..	.	.	1	.	.	5	.	.	.	.	6
North West	11	.	12	4	5	29	24	11	16	10	15
TOTAL STATE:	116	113	595	120	171	727	520	428	286	197	391
											Per 10,000 Population.

TABLE II. PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT
- QUEENSLAND, NOVEMBER, 1946.

DISTRICTS AND INDUSTRIES.

S/T 1980